The Rt. Rev. Lyman C. Ogilby
Christ Church Christiana Hundred
May 3, 1986

The Rt. Rev. Andrew Yu-Yue Tsu
December 18, 1885 - April 13, 1986

I am honored to be here today and to be given the privilege to say a few words on this occasion when we formally and liturgically affirm the truth that Bishop Tsu is now completely and eternally in the love and care of the resurrected and merciful Saviour, the Good Shepherd and the Prince of Peace -- the Lord he loved and served so many years.

Perhaps I was given this privilege because my own Christian pilgrimmage as a bishop intersected and overlapped his in two areas, two very different yet similiar parts of the world -- Southeast Asia and Southeast Pennsylvania. I am glad to say that there are others here today who share some of this heritage -- Bishop Mosley was exposed to Southeast Asia when he served the National Church as deputy for Overseas Relations and, of course, the Rev. Dr. Peyton Craighill, born in China, had distinguished service in Taiwan for many years.

We cannot stop to trace the long and distinguished career of Y.Y. in China, but I leave you two brief salutations which summarize this story. The first from a bishop I came to know well and admired tremendously during my 18 years in Southeast Asia, as a missionary bishop in the Philippines. These are words written by Ronald O. Hall, Bishop of Hongkong for 34 years -- one of the great heroes of the Anglican Communion, yea Christian world. "It was a great day when Y.Y. accepted my entreaty to let me put his name up to the House of Bishops of the Church in China for appointment as an Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Hongkong, with special responsibility for the Burma Road, which was China's life-line during the war with Japan. His title was Bishop of Kunming, which was his base."

The second from a priest surely known to many of you, the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Long, now the Director and Editor of the Forward Movement Publications, who himself served in both China and Pennsylvania with Bishop Tsu: "Y.Y. was one of the most highly educated men I have ever known -- one of the last to be thoroughly educated in the Chinese classics, but also in western theology and social science as well. He is an absolutely unique character!"

Now that I have been a bishop in the Diocese of Pennsylvania for 15 years, I can personally affirm that Y.Y.'s footprints are clearly visible all over our diocese and those footprints carry the message of love and care, joy and service, faith and hope.

We have gathered here today as the thankful community, as a Eucharistic fellowship. Though we are indeed sorrowful and bereaved, we are thankful because each one of us has known and has been associated with or intimately related to Y.Y. We have known him as colleague and friend, husband and father, brother and uncle, grandfather, scholar and bishop, -- friend of fishermen -- as a pilgrim on the way. His joy has cheered us, his humor amused us; his courage has encouraged us and his strength strengthened us; his faith has engraced and enabled us; his brilliance has enlightened us; -- sometimes his automobile driving has amazed us! His love has always embraced us.

We are thankful for Y.Y.'s presence with us -- for brief or fleeting encounters, for years of close and deep associations. And nothing can take that away from us. It is his gift to us, and we are thankful.

And we are thankful to the God who gave Y.Y. life and who, by His wondrous creation, restored in Y.Y. the dignity of humanity. This God humbled himself sharing and dignifying all of us -- all of humanity. We are particularly thankful for this divine intervention, this incarnation and manifestation -- the Birth of the Saviour, the Prince of Peace, the Light of the World. He, the Babe of Bethlehem, was born to die, so that we might live. We thank him for his life and death.

And this death of the Lord of Life, the King of Kings, the lover and dignifier of all humanity, was cruelly accomplished on a dump heap, a hill called Calvary, outside the city walls. But this execution opens for us the way to know, experience, and celebrate eternal life in His love. Indeed, we can know the power of His resurrection, rising with him to newness of life. We do thank God for His Birth and life, for His death and resurrection. AMEN.